Docket No.: 243087US2/pta

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masato TERAO, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/667,381 GROUP: 2625

FILED: September 23, 2003 EXAMINER: GARCIA, GABRIEL I.

FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND PRINTING METHOD FOR PRINTING

DIFFERENT TYPES OF ORIGINALS

## **COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowability of the claimed invention. In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance of January 28, 2010, Applicants respectfully submit the following comments.

In the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance on page 2 of the Notice of Allowance, paragraph 2 states in part:

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record teaches different ways of processing single and double side pages within an image forming apparatus. However the prior art of record fails to teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claims), an image forming (or printer having a reading type changing part changing a type of reading of a plurality of originals which include different types of originals in a mixed manner being read, the different types of originals including originals having an image on a single side thereof and originals having

grouping printing papers sheets on which images have been formed based on the plurality of different types of originals . . . . as recited in the independent claims.

It is respectfully noted that independent Claims 1 and 68 do not include this language.

These claims do not include a reference to a "printer". Also, Claim 68, being directed to a printing method, does not include a reference to structure as may be implied and/or inferred by the examiner's statement. For example, the claim does not include a reference to a "changing part" or a "grouping part. Claim 68 is patentable by virtue of the limitations recited therein rather than the structure of the apparatus. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above-quoted statement does not apply to Claims 1 and 68 to the extent the language used in the statement differs from the language of the claim.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/09) James J. Kulbaski Attorney of Record Registration No. 34,648

John Sipos Registration No. 61,985